

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By O. E. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR MAY 24

UNPROFITABLE SERVANTS.

LESSON TEXT—Luke 17:1-10.
GOLDEN TEXT—"He that glorifies, let him glory in the Lord." I Cor. 1:31.

This lesson is closely connected with that of last week; while spoken especially to his disciples it was most probably at the same time and in the same atmosphere as that of the other lesson. The teaching is a continuation of that just given and which grew out of the hospitality Jesus received in the Pharisee's house. The heart of Jesus was filled with compassion for the needy multitude. He, the Good Shepherd, was seeking the lost sheep. His anger was kindled against the men whose love of money and of show had calloused them in the presence of this multitude. It was in this spirit that he turned and taught his disciples.

A Special Warning.

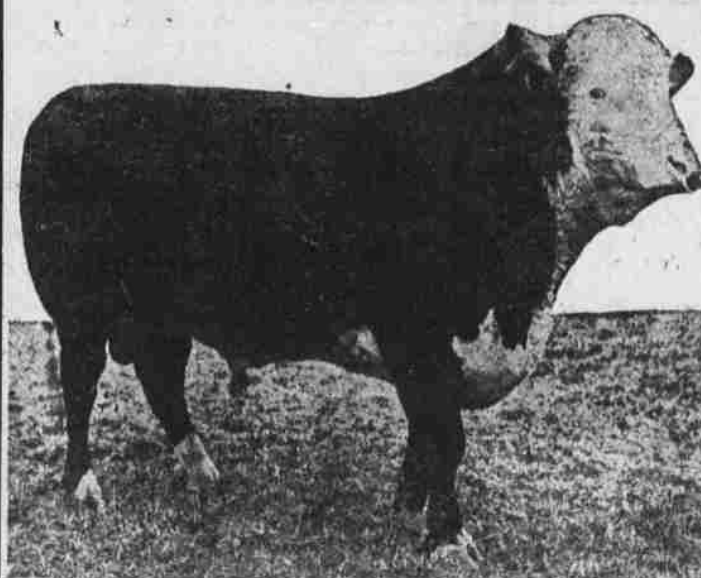
I. "Take Heed to Yourselves," vv. 1-4. It is inevitable that occasion of stumbling shall come. Satan is not going to lose his spoil without putting forth his best endeavor to hold, to ensnare, to trap men. God, however, has taken this into his plan and makes them to work out for the good of his people, Ps. 76:10; II Cor. 12:7. Why does God permit evil in the world? He uses these stumbling blocks to test us and we who are approved are made manifest, I Cor. 11:10. This does not mean that we are guiltless if through one we fall, nor minimize the guilt of the one through whom they come, see Matt. 18:7. We as followers must go to every possible length to avoid being an occasion to another, I Cor. 8:9, 13; 10:32; Rom. 14:13. In this lesson (v. 2) Jesus sounds a special warning against those who cause one of his little ones to stumble, e. g., those weak in faith, this hungering multitude who follow him, these "babes in Christ," as well as children of tender years. Particularly, however, is this doom pronounced upon those who divert from paths of righteousness the course of childhood. Not only men who prey upon those of tender years, who exploit their labor or cause their moral corruption, but careless and indifferent parents should ponder these words. To hinder a child from accepting Christ or cause it to stumble through a sinful example will reap an awful retribution. The word "these" as here used is another indication of the nearness of childhood to our Lord in his earthly life.

To avoid such a danger each individual life must "take heed" (v. 3). (I Tim. 5:16). Appealing to his disciples Jesus showed them their true attitude towards a sinning man was to rebuke him, Lev. 19:17, and if he repented he should be forgiven. It was here that the Pharisees and rulers had failed. They were "blind leaders of the blind" and failed to see the eagerness of the sinners and publicans to hear Jesus, a movement which indicated a desire to reach a higher moral plane. Understanding this, they would have forgiven them even though it be unto "seven times in the day." Forgiveness here means to dismiss or to send away.

Nothing Impossible.

II. "Increase Our Faith," vv. 5-10. Such a program as that just outlined must have staggered the apostles as they thought of their own inability so to conduct their lives. This exclamation reveals their sense of the importance, superiority and difficulty of his ideals. As we come into personal fellowship with our Lord that the eyes of our understanding are opened and we see our importance and the necessity of having him fulfill in us that which is lacking of his ideals. Their petition was a recognition of ability as well as of their need. In response to our cry he will supply, Mark 9:24-27. Nothing is impossible to him (v. 6), Phil. 4:13. The illustration is one easy to remember. The insignificant little seed of the mustard has in it tremendous power of growth and development, many thousand times its own weight and bulk, see Matt. 13:31, 32, because it is linked with God's tremendous laws of life, with omnipotence. Our Lord contrasts such power with the removal of a sycamore tree; small wonder we receive such a vivid and lasting lesson of the power of faith, even the weakest faith. Faith is a principle necessary to overcome the obstacles in the way of measuring up to his ideals if it is of the right quality, it is equal to the doing of the most mighty things. Passing from this contrast Jesus uses the parable which follows (vs. 7-10). The word "but" would suggest an apparent departure from this subject. It is, however, a correction of any false idea that may have arisen that the doing of duty can be the cause of boastfulness or create any rights whereby we may expect any special reward for service. The disciples, as has been suggested, realized the difficulty of obeying his commands, yet they knew that such obedience would assure them the highest rewards of faith. His words implied and warranted such a conclusion, hence he warns them not to make the reward the motive of their service.

PRIZE WINNING TWO-YEAR-OLD



O. K. Leader, one of the finest Herefords ever raised in Oklahoma, took first prize in the 2-year-old Hereford class at the Cattleman's Show at Oklahoma City. He was exhibited by his owner, W. N. Shellenbarger, of Oklahoma City.

HABITS OF KAFIR.

Kafir removes the moisture from the soil when Indian corn can no longer secure it.

Hot winds and lack of moisture may wither and curl the leaves during the day, but the plants are freshened during the night.

It stands still in its growth in a season of severe drought, but when the rains come growth is continued, heads fill with seed and a good crop is harvested.

Plants grow erect 4½ to 6½ feet high. The leaves, nine to fourteen in number, are heavy, broad, and dark green colored. Seed heads are erect and frequently measure 14 to 18 inches in length.

The joints of the stems are short and thick and offer great resistance to the wind.

Kafir is a warm weather crop and nothing is gained by early planting. It is best planted a week to ten days later than Indian corn.

It suffers great injury from weeds during the early stages of growth. Kafir often will yield well when planted in fields on which Indian corn or wheat have been destroyed by flooding or drought.

It grows until late in the fall and the soil does not have a chance to get in best condition for the succeeding crop. Kafir makes demands on the soil late into the fall.

CORN SILAGE FOR STEERS.

Bulletin 124 of the Pennsylvania Experiment station sums up the results of steer feeding experiments as follows:

Corn silage at \$3.50 per ton is more economical as a sole roughage for feeding steers than a combination of silage and mixed hay when hay is valued at \$12.00 per ton.

Corn silage was found more palatable for fattening steers than ear corn, which makes it necessary to limit the amount of silage in the ration in order to insure the greatest gain in flesh during the finishing period.

After paying farm prices for other feeds consumed, the steers fed silage as a sole roughage returned \$1.46 per bushel of corn. Those fed silage and mixed hay as a sole roughage returned \$1.308 per bushel.

The margin necessary between the buying and selling prices was 57 cents and 71 cents per hundred pounds live weight.

Steers returned \$2.23 more per head for feed consumed when followed by hogs in the feed lot.

Net profits received from experimental feeding cattle under Pennsylvania conditions, not including pork produced, during the winter of 1912-1913 ranged from \$11.224 per head for steers fed silage and hay to \$14.095 per head for steers fed corn silage as a sole roughage.

CONQUERED THE DROUTH IN OKLAHOMA



On farm of O. H. Elling, Comanche county, South Central Oklahoma. He says "This shows my upland corn, which the hot winds didn't 'cook.' The stacks in the background are black hull white kafir corn which thrashed out forty bushels per acre."

GOOD ROADS DAY AT MANGUN \$2,000 SPENT IMPROVING ROADS

Every Wednesday the Men Turn Out and Work the Highways

Wednesday of each week is good roads day in Mangun and on that day business and professional men of the city close up their stores and offices and with pick and shovel, go forth to improve the roads leading into the city. From four to six hundred men are to be found at work each Wednesday.

The local high school and the Western Baptist college suspend operations for the day and the students take part in the booster movement. On some days as much as twelve miles has been put into almost perfect condition. The farmers knowing that the stores are closed, do not go to town on Wednesday now except to take part in the highway movement. Business men are determined that the city will present, within a short time, the best roads in western Oklahoma.

The operations extend out as far as ten miles in all directions. All owners of automobiles donate their cars for use on the road days, conveying the workers out in the morning and back at night.

Injunction Blocks Consolidation. The school districts around Jefferson, Grant County, Oklahoma, recently voted to consolidate their schools. The vote was 210 for to 44 against. And then some one "took it to court" and obtained a temporary injunction restraining the county superintendent from proceeding to finish the good job.

Analysis of Farming One-eighth science, three-eighths of art, or knowing how to do the thing, and one-half pure business make up farming.

Jefferson County Now Claims to Have Fine System of Highways.

Jefferson county now claims to have eighteen miles of as good roads as there are in the state. Since the winter rains the automobile thoroughfare leading to the oil fields in the eastern part of the county has been dragged and put in excellent condition and motorists assert it is one of the best dirt roads in the state.

The business men of Waurika have donated liberally to a good roads fund and are now advocating a move with Cornish, a town twenty-five miles east of there, for a good roads day when the business men of the two towns shall get together and work the roads. Over \$2,000 has been expended on Jefferson county roads in the past sixty days and the improved condition is making good road enthusiasts of all who travel them.

Plant Good Seed, Or None At All.

Make sure that you have good seed for all spring crops. Buy what you haven't and test it all to make sure that you plant only seed which will grow.

Milo Good in Oats Stubble. For planting on oats stubble, milo is preferable to kafir. One pound of good milo seed per acre is enough to plant.

Millions Invested in Stock The total value of all domestic animals in the state in 1910 was \$160,338,000, of which the value of animals not on farms constituted 7.3 per cent.

Garber's Contribution to the Bread Box Last year 210 cars of agricultural products, including 126 cars of wheat, were shipped from Garber.

AMONG the MOUNTAINS of COGNE

ITALY SIDE OF THE PYRENEAN



TOURISTS in general know little of the considerable stretch of country that extends northward from Turin to the southern slopes of Mont Blanc. Apart from its interest to mountaineers in containing the two highest peaks in Italy, there

are few of its hundreds of valleys that do not possess relics in the shape of giant aqueducts and arches half sunk amid the vegetation of centuries, which testify to their importance in Roman times. The district around Cogne, the center of the mountainous region, is strictly preserved as a hunting ground for the king of Italy. Numerous keepers traverse the mountains, and heavy penalties are enforced against any person disturbing the game. As a consequence, chamois have greatly multiplied, and it is now the only locality in the whole Alps where the noble bouquetin or ibex may be seen in its native wilds.

It was, however, mainly to photograph, if not to climb, the Grand Paradis and the Grivola that the writer and a friend made a recent visit to this country. We had journeyed in easy stages by way of Chambery and the St. Bernard, occupying several days, although the district itself is within 24 hours of Charing Cross, and reached the village at dusk, when its inhabitants had already retired with their cocks and hens. While in Aosta we had heard much of the habits and manners of the natives of Cogne. The Aostans, who consider themselves to be in the front rank of European civilization, were never tired of pouring ridicule on the dollops of the simple villagers. "They had no use for beds, but slept in cupboards on shelves, one above the other. The women made up for a scarcity of linen by a superabundance of cloth, which they wound round their waists in many layers under their skirts, swelling themselves out to an unnatural size. They were childishly fond of wearing medals and beads, and wore aprons, which they carefully tied up on six days of the week, only letting them down on the seventh."

The day following our arrival was the occasion of a festival. The village church was the center of the celebrations. At various times the villagers issued forth in procession, preceded by white-gowned bearers of banners and images, making the circuit of the adjacent cemetery and giving vent to a mournful dirge as they marched. It was difficult to approach the natives; a sight of the camera I carried sufficed to send them scurrying to an immense distance. A few half-frances, however, judiciously distributed worked wonders; the news quickly circulated through the village, and I forthwith had no lack of models. Their attentions, indeed, became wearisome. We were continually met by damsels arrayed in voluminous garments who appeared unexpectedly from corners or chased each other with conscious laughter and elephantine grace across our path. Two even waylaid us, stating that in consequence of waiting for an appointment (which, however, they had not kept) they had lost time. We compromised this matter, but began to think that the natives were less simple than had been described, and that the statement regarding their Jewish descent might not be wholly without truth.

A beautiful vista of snow peaks and glaciers at the head of the Val Non-



THE GRIVOLA (13,022 FT.)

tey, facing Cogne, marks the commencement of the great ridge that culminates in the Grand Paradis, the loftiest peak in Italy. We toiled up this valley the following morning, passing numerous wayside shrines, very gay within, with painted images of saints and Madonnas, but picturesque and dilapidated externally. A peasant in devotional attitude at one of them, with the mountains rising grandly above, completed a picture that was very unlike any met with on an English countryside. A three hours' tramp up steep paths took us to the chalets of Monel, which owing to the lateness of the season, were untenanted by man or beast. They stood in full view of the grand Tribulation glacier, assuredly well named, for its many-mile expanse presents a continuous series of icefalls and huge seracs. The plight of a climber lost amid this desolation would be desperate indeed, and every gaping crevasse would remind him of a quicker route to the other world than that afforded by the slopes of the Grand Paradis rising above. The next few days were chiefly spent in abortive attempts to photograph the Grivola. Like the Weisshorn at Zermatt, it is a mountain that cannot be seen from the valley; one has to climb to a considerable height to judge its position, and owing to the badness of the local maps and the ignorance of the natives concerning their own mountains, we had to find the best viewpoint by the process of climbing each of the neighboring summits in turn. We quickly found that the Pointe de Pousset, which has been termed the Gornegrat of Cogne, was certainly the best position, and directed our efforts to a more northerly and lofty summit.

On the last occasion we started out at 4 a. m., for we had to descend several miles to the village of Epinal before starting on the real additional climb of 6,000 feet. By nine o'clock we were clear of the forest region and entered a savage but sublime desolation. To the north the snow-flecked summits of the Mont Emilius and the Becca di Nona towered grandly into the cloudless sky, while the rocky ridges around mounted into towers and spires of infinite variety.

At the pass we were saluted by an icy gale from the north, which increased in intensity as we scrambled up the shattered rocks that formed the last 800 feet of the ascent. The wind fairly whistled among the crags, and my friend Camosso filled the lucid intervals with his cries. He had often told me that no Italian could under-

stand what it was that induced Englishmen to climb mountains, and he now repeated the statement with several variations. I suggested that the atmosphere of Aosta restaurants and glacié shops was hardly the right sort of preparation. The mention of these luxuries seemed to touch a responsive cord, for he replied, with emotion, "Ah, if I ever get down, I will never climb a mountain again. Oh, what a wind! Oh, Corpo di Bacco, what a wind!" As we rose the Grivola grew more

majestic. The beautiful curving snow ridge, which is the mountain's chief distinction, was seen throughout its length from the summit to the glacier, which latter, from its steep inclination, was broken throughout by numerous ice-falls and gaping crevasses. We were at a height of over ten thousand feet and less than four miles from the mountain, and could see in a moment that we occupied the finest possible point of view and the only near position from which its grand northern face could be seen. The view towards the north was indescribably imposing. The whole of the central Pennines from Mont Blanc to the Matterhorn were free from cloud. Seen from a southern view point there is never any doubt as to the absolute predominance of the Great White mountain, and from here her height and bulk fairly dwarfed all others. Now, while scores of mountains separated by intervals of hundreds of miles were clear, the one for which the ascent was made was not. In Alpine photography this is almost invariably the case. Faint mist driven from the vicinity were driven against the summit and speedily developed to enormous dimensions; these disappeared and others took their place. Patience, however, was ultimately rewarded, and for a few minutes the welcome sun rays poured over the ridge, striking the tops of the seracs and filling the crevasses with a thousand shadows. The foreground had already been chosen, and the exposures were made just in time to escape a mass of cloud that covered the summit for the rest of the day. All this consumed much time, and it was late afternoon before we left the summit. We were scrambling over these rocks in semi-darkness when the figure of a man suddenly materialized on a neighboring ridge. He carried a gun slung bandoleer fashion across his back, and further astonished us by calling upon us to stop and demanded to know what we were about. Explanations that we climbed the mountain for the pleasure derived from the exercise seemed only half satisfactory. "But tourists never come here, you are too late, besides which you carry a gun." I held up my ice-ax. "Ah, ma foi, I took you for poachers, and thought you were after the chamois." He expressed himself as bitterly disappointed. He had seen us from a distant summit four hours before.

In this country the telephone industry employs 132,000 people.

where the Austrian would-be emperor was captured, tried and executed. There are many relics of this ephemeral empire scattered through the city.

At this point there are several large cotton and flour mills in operation. The mills employ 2,000 hands. South of the city is the celebrated Canada, noted for its great number of small orchards and market gardens, from which fruit to the value of more than \$100,000, Mexican money, is sold annually. At the head of the Canada is a fine spring, which has been im-

proved by the municipality for bathing purposes. There are free baths for the poorer people. The water of the spring is also used for irrigating the gardens of the Canada.

Corrosive Power of Creosote.

The captain of a station in an iron mine sat down for a quiet smoke on a pile of creosoted timbers. He lost much cloth from his trousers and no little skin from important parts of his anatomy, thus learning the lesson that creosote is a powerful corrosive

HISTORICAL AND RICH CITY

Queretaro, in Mexico, Where Maximilian Was Executed, a Place of Commercial Importance.

Queretaro has a population, with suburbs, of 40,000; elevation, 5,975 feet; is distant from Laredo 636 miles; from City of Mexico, 167, and is the capital of the state of the same name. This city is interesting as being where the imperialists, under the Archduke Maximilian, made their last stand, and